

Article 16 - Chancery

SUBSIDIZED ADOPTION ACT

88A.

DEFINITION. IN THIS SUBTITLE THE TERM "CHILD" MEANS A MINOR AS DEFINED BY STATE LAW, WHO IS LEGALLY FREE FOR ADOPTION AND FOR WHOM A DETERMINATION HAS BEEN MADE BY THE LOCAL DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES, THAT A CASH SUBSIDY, MEDICAL ASSISTANCE OR MEDICAL CARE IS NECESSARY TO ASSURE HIS ADOPTION BECAUSE OF SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES SUCH AS:

- (1) PHYSICAL OR MENTAL DISABILITY;
- (2) EMOTIONAL DISTURBANCE;
- (3) RECOGNIZED HIGH RISK OF PHYSICAL OR MENTAL DISEASE;
- (4) AGE;
- (5) SIBLING RELATIONSHIP;
- (6) RACIAL OR ETHNIC FACTORS; OR
- (7) ANY COMBINATION OF THESE SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES.

88B.

PURPOSE. THE PURPOSE OF THIS SUBTITLE IS TO MAKE POSSIBLE THROUGH PUBLIC SUBSIDY THE MOST APPROPRIATE ADOPTION OF EACH CHILD WHO IS:

- (1) UNDER PUBLIC OR PRIVATE AGENCY GUARDIANSHIP OR CARE;
- (2) LEGALLY FREE FOR ADOPTION; AND
- (3) DETERMINED TO REQUIRE A SUBSIDY TO ASSURE HIS ADOPTION IN VIEW OF SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES.

88C.

(A) ADMINISTRATION AND FUNDING. THE [[SOCIAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION]] LOCAL DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES SHALL ESTABLISH AND ADMINISTER AN ONGOING PROGRAM OF SUBSIDIZED ADOPTION, EXCEPTING MEDICAL ASSISTANCE OR MEDICAL CARE. SUBSIDIES AND SERVICES FOR CHILDREN UNDER THIS PROGRAM SHALL BE PROVIDED OUT OF FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE OR MADE AVAILABLE TO IT FROM OTHER SOURCES.

(B) MEDICAL ASSISTANCE OR MEDICAL CARE FOR CHILDREN UNDER THE ADOPTION SUBSIDY PROGRAM SHALL BE